
Red Cliff



AODA Reduction Team

Red Cliff Community Health Center + Bayfield County Health Department + Red Cliff Tribal Court + Bayfield County Court + Red Cliff AODA + Bayfield AODA + Red Cliff Early Childhood Center + Bayfield School + Red Cliff Law Enforcement + Bayfield County Sheriff's Department + City of Bayfield Police Department + Red Cliff Family Services + Red Cliff Human Services

May/June 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community Members:

It's that time of year again! Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2016 and every person who helped them along the way! Graduation is an important milestone; the closing of one chapter and the beginning of another. It is also a time to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of our young people. It is our hope that all celebrations will be remembered forever as a very positive experience for everyone. We want everyone to:

***Love Yourself...Honor Your
Success...Respect Your Future***

The purpose of this letter is to remind you when alcohol is introduced as refreshment at graduation parties or any party, a variety of negative consequences can result.

Under Wisconsin law, unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or spouse who has attained the legal drinking age, no person under the age of 21 may possess or consume alcohol.

Buying a keg of beer or otherwise providing alcohol for teens at a high school graduation party is illegal and invites young people to drink illegally. If adults provide alcohol to persons under the age of 21, they are subjecting themselves to the potential for very serious civil and criminal liability:

⇒ A civil forfeiture of up to \$500.00 may be imposed for simply providing alcohol to a person under the age of 21.

- ⇒ If anyone provides alcohol to a person under the age of 18 and the underage person dies or suffers great bodily harm as a result of consuming the alcohol provided, the person who provided it may be charged with a felony criminal offense.
 - ⇒ If you provide alcohol to your child and he/she leaves your property you are liable for contributing to the delinquency of a minor and any damages or bodily harm incurred by your child.
- ⇒ If anyone knowingly provides alcohol to a person under the age of 21, and the alcohol provided is a substantial factor in causing injury to a 3rd party, the person providing the alcohol is subject to civil liability for damages to the injured 3rd party.

It is important to keep in mind these consequences are over and above the unnecessary pain and suffering which occurs whenever someone is injured – or worse - as a result of underage drinking.

We care about the welfare of you and your teens. We want all of you to enjoy your graduation celebrations. The negative consequences outlined above are easily avoidable. We encourage all parents and party hosts to **NOT** make alcoholic beverages available to any youth under the age of 21 years at graduation parties or any parties. In addition, be sure to secure your prescription medications in a locked location during open house parties and not allow underage youth to smoke on your property. For more information please visit the Drug Free Action Alliance website and view the Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign:

<http://drugfreeactionalliance.org/parents-who-host>